

U.S. Citizenship for Persons Born Abroad

Persons born abroad to U.S. parent/s may have acquired U.S. citizenship at birth. This determination is based upon a variety of factors: the law in effect at the time of birth, the amount of time the American citizen parent/s have lived in the U.S. prior to the birth, and, in some cases, the marital status of the biological parents.

The following information summarizes key provisions of U.S. law regarding the transmission of citizenship by a U.S. citizen parent or parents to their child born in wedlock outside the USA (please note that separate transmission requirements apply for children born outside of wedlock):

The acquisition of U.S. citizenship by birth outside the United States is governed by Federal statutes and is based on *jus sanguinis*, the right of blood. These laws on acquisition of U.S. citizenship through a parent have always been based upon the existence of a blood relationship between the child and parent(s) through whom citizenship is claimed.

If **BOTH your parents were U.S. citizens** when you were born, you may have acquired U.S. citizenship at birth, if **one parent resided in the USA** prior to your birth (applies to **persons born anytime after 12 Noon Eastern Time, 5/24/34**).

If you were **born on or after 11/14/86**, and **ONE of your parents was a U.S. citizen** at the time of your birth, you may have acquired U.S. citizenship at birth if the U.S. citizen parent was **physically present in the USA for periods totaling 5 years prior to your birth, at least 2 of which were after their 14th birthday**.

If you were **born on or after 12/24/52 and before 11/14/86**, and **ONE of your parents was a U.S. citizen** at the time of your birth, you may have acquired U.S. citizenship at birth if the U.S. citizen parent was **physically present in the USA for periods totaling 10 years prior to your birth, at least 5 of which were after their 14th birthday**.

* If you were **born on or after 1/13/41 and before 12/24/52**, and **ONE of your parents was a U.S. citizen** at the time of your birth, you may have acquired U.S. citizenship at birth if the U.S. citizen parent **resided in the USA for periods totaling 10 years prior to your birth, at least 5 of which were after their 16th birthday** (slightly more expansive provision for children of U.S. military veterans).

* If you were **born after 12 Noon Eastern Time 5/24/34 and before 1/13/41**, and **ONE of your parents was a U.S. citizen** at the time of your birth, you may have acquired U.S. citizenship at birth **if the U.S. citizen parent resided in the USA** prior to your birth.

If you were **born before 12 Noon Eastern Time 5/24/34**, and **ONE of your parents was a U.S. citizen** at the time of your birth, you may have acquired U.S. citizenship at birth if the **U.S. citizen parent resided in the USA** prior to your birth.

* Important Note: If you qualified for citizenship in one of these categories, note you may have lost it for failure to live in the USA for a certain period. Your citizenship may, however, be restored upon your taking an oath of allegiance to the U.S.

Preliminary Questionnaire

Part 1 – Information about you (Note: “You” refers throughout to the person with the potential claim to U.S. citizenship.)

YOUR FULL
NAME _____

(Include maiden name and all other names used in the present or past.)

Are you adopted? YES _____ NO _____ **SEX:** M _____ F _____

FULL ADDRESS _____

Number _____ Street _____ City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

PHONE # Res. _____ Bus. _____ / Occupation _____

I was born on _____ at _____
M / D / Y City Province Country

Have you ever been issued or included in a U.S. passport? YES _____ NO _____

If yes, please give details:

_____ **Passport Number** _____ **Date of Issuance** _____ **Place of Issuance** _____

Can you produce this document? YES _____ NO _____

Have you ever been issued any other evidence of U.S. Citizenship? YES _____ NO _____

If yes, please give details:

_____ **Document Type and Number** _____ **Date of Issuance** _____ **Place of Issuance** _____

Can you produce this document? YES _____ NO _____

I have lived in the following countries since my birth:

Country _____ **State/Province** _____ **From (M-D-Y)** _____ **To (M-D-Y)** _____

Part 2 – Information about your biological parents

My biological parents were legally married to each other on _____ in _____
Date
City/Province/Country

My biological parents were never legally married to each other _____

APPLICANT'S FATHER:

Name

Date of Birth Place of Birth

My father now resides at _____

Was your father ever issued a U.S. passport? _____ If so, please state the date of the last U.S. passport issued and attach a photocopy of the passport data page. Issue date: _____

If your father ever acquired a citizenship through naturalization, please indicate the date and which country:

Country Date

He was physically present in the U.S. from _____ to _____, from _____ to _____, and from _____ to _____ (list all periods, no matter how short, covering the period of time from his birth until your birth. Attach a separate sheet if necessary).

My father had the following service in the U.S. Armed Forces (based on active duty with honorable service), U.S. Government Agency (please specify) or International Organization (please specify):

Branch of Service From To

Were either of your FATHER'S parents a U.S. citizen? YES _____ NO _____

If so, please indicate which parent: Your Father's Father _____ Your Father's Mother _____

APPLICANT'S MOTHER:

Name
(Include maiden name and all other names used in the present or past.)

Date of Birth Place of Birth

My mother now resides at _____

Was your mother ever issued a U.S. passport? _____ If so, please state the date of the last U.S. passport issued and attach a photocopy of the passport data page. Issue date: _____

Country	Date
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Date _____

To

When Documented
